

BEST AVAILABLE COPY**U.S. Patent Serial No. 09/941,982****REMARKS**

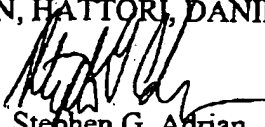
Claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-18 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 10 and 12 have been amended.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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